

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 1-14 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-15 of U.S. Patent 6,304,456. Claims 15-22 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent 6,647,618.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1-14 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-15 of U.S. Patent 6,304,456. A terminal disclaimer filed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) is submitted herewith. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-14 are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection based on the above noted non-statutory grounds.

Claims 15-22 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent 6,647,618. A terminal disclaimer filed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) is submitted herewith. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 15-22 are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection based on the above noted non-statutory grounds.

Conclusion

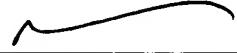
In light of the above-listed remarks, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the remaining claims.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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